

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2010
COINDRE HALL, HUNTINGTON, NY**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Miles Borden	Trustee, Town of Smithtown
Gil Cardillo	Chairman, Town of Riverhead
Gregory Dawson	Vice Chairman, Town of Islip
Scott Hilary	Trustee, Town of Southold
Richard Hollborn	Trustee, Town of Babylon
Dawn Hopkins	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
William B. Sickles	Trustee, Town of Southampton
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

ABSENT

Amy Engel	Member of the Board
Bill Shilling	Member of the Board

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Joseph J. Montuori	Commissioner
Tracey Bellone	Deputy Commissioner
Tony Trotta	Superintendent
Terry Maccarrone	Coordinator of Community Based Programs
Ann Rothenberg	Assistant to the Commissioner
Richard Wolff	Assistant Director of Historic Services

GUESTS

Lauretta Fischer	Principal Environmental Analyst, Planning Department
Tom Jones	Suffolk Committee for Camping
Tom Young	County Attorney's Office

Chairman Cardillo called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC PORTION

There was one member of the public present. He did not wish to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16th, 2010

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Hollborn. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of *8-0-0.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Montuori reported on the following:

- At the beginning of October the three parks affected by the West Nile Virus tested negative.
- On September 21st the Commissioner attended his first Parks Foundation meeting. Many issues were discussed including naming rights at the golf courses and Third House.
- The mill work at Blydenburgh started again. It had to stop because the contractor had a labor problem. The problem has been resolved.
- The concessionaire at Indian Island closed down on Columbus Day. Colleen Hofmeister is working on an RFP for a new concessionaire at Indian Island.
- The lead removal at the Trap and Skeet Range went well. It is now completed.
- We had a long, hot season and our staff did an excellent job.
- The Commissioner is working with a gentleman who wants to build a dog park at Gardiners County Park. This gentleman is a contractor and will donate his time and materials. The Commissioner will update the Trustees as this project moves along.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Cardillo thanked Mrs. White for the delicious lobster salad last month.

Chairman Cardillo announced the election of new officers.

Election of New Chairman

A motion to nominate Vice Chairman Gregory Dawson as the new Chairman was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of *8-0-0.

Election of New Vice Chairman

A motion to nominate Trustee Miles Borden as the new Vice Chairman was made by Trustee McKay and seconded by Trustee White. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of *8-0-0.

Chairman Cardillo announced Trustee Hilary has accepted a position with the County and will be resigning as a Trustee. The Trustees appreciate his years of service.

Cherry Avenue Dog Park

Deputy Commissioner Bellone distributed informational packets to the Trustees regarding the Cherry Avenue Dog Park in Sayville. When the County acquired the property there was an agreement with the Town of Islip to share the property. The County would build a dog park on the property and the Town would speak with Baymen Soccer, who already has property adjacent to this field, to see if they would be interested in building an additional soccer field on the other half of the property. Baymen Soccer is not yet ready to construct, but the County is. We need approval from the Trustees for the construction of the Cherry Avenue Dog Park.

A motion to approve the construction of the Cherry Avenue Dog Park in Sayville, New York was made by Trustee Dawson and seconded by Trustee Borden. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of *8-0-0.

Hiring of Park Police Officers

Deputy Commissioner Bellone reported that the County Executive submitted the 2011 Operating Budget. The Legislature Budget Review Office has submitted their response. The only big change is that they have recommended the hiring of five (5) new additional Park Police Officers. We still don't know if this will be approved in the final budget. If we do get approval, we will ask that the officers attend the spring training class.

Trustee Sickles said he is concerned that the Parks Department lost five people as a result of the early incentive, but can only backfill one position. That leaves significant holes in the Parks Department.

ROUND TABLE

Trustee Dawson said it has been a pleasure serving as Vice Chairman.

Trustee McKay thanked everyone for their support while his wife was ill and for the fruit basket. Mrs. McKay is back on her feet and doing well.

Deputy Commissioner Bellone reported that there is a house located within Theodore Roosevelt County Park. When the County acquired the property, they took this house in the middle of the park by eminent domain. At that time, the County made an agreement with the homeowner (Hilda Lindley) that she, or a descendent, could live in the house for 35 years. That agreement ends on February 20th, 2011. The Parks Department has been in touch with the Lindley family about taking back the house. The family has sent out many letters regarding their desire to remain in the house. The house is occupied May through September/October. The house has no electricity and is very difficult to get to. They use kerosene lamps and propane. They have a well with a generator that is hand cranked. It was an old World War II eastern shore spotting house. Recently, Parks staff and a Senior Appraiser from the County went to visit the house. We are waiting for the appraisal report. Once we receive the report, the Housing Advisory Board will reconvene and make a decision on how to go forward. This house presents a unique situation.

Trustee White reported the road leading up to the Lindley House is very overgrown. It wasn't always like that. The "spotting house" was built in 1941. At that time, one side of the house was exposed to the water. This "spotting house" was meant to look like a cottage. It had doors and windows painted on it. Where the windows were painted there were actually slits with telescopes.

Trustee White reported he attended his first Parks Foundation meeting. One of the items on the agenda was the plaque for the John Fritz Memorial Fishing Pier. We will need some wording for the plaque in the next month or two. It will take approximately six weeks for the plaque to be made. Deputy Commissioner Bellone said the Parks Department was considering having our sign shop make the plaque and the Parks Foundation could pay for something else, i.e. a bench. We still need to come up with some wording.

Trustee White reported the residents of the Montauk community would like to have the name of Theodore Roosevelt County Park changed to Third House County Park. Theodore Roosevelt was only there for one month in all his life. Trustee White asked for a Trustees Resolution requesting this change. Trustee Sickles said the park was originally named Montauk County Park, but in 1998 there was a resolution passed by the Legislature to rename it Theodore Roosevelt County Park. Trustee White would like a resolution from the Trustees to submit to the Legislature. Trustee White will then discuss this with Legislator Schneiderman.

A motion to prepare a resolution to change the name of Theodore Roosevelt County Park to Third House County Park was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of *8-0-0.

Trustee Hollborn reported that on October 5th he attended an RFP oral presentation for a concessionaire at Smith Point County Park. Deputy Commissioner Bellone reported that as a result of that presentation, the RFP Committee recommended that the Beach Hut remain the concessionaire at Smith Point. That recommendation will go to the Legislature.

Richard Wolff reported that Richard Martin wanted to inform the Trustees that the work on the roof at Coindre Hall was on-going. Two brackets that fell off the building were replicated and replaced.

Terry Maccarrone reported on the following:

- GATR Maintenance Facility – finishing punch list. The roads are paved and it looks great.
- Smith Point Electrical Upgrade at Campsites – the bid opening was this month. There were numerous potential respondents. We expect the Department of Public Works to award the contract in November.
- Pier at Smith Point is pretty much completed. The Parks Foundation will handle ordering a plaque and/or memorial bench in memory of Trustee John Fritz. We expect to have a dedication ceremony in the spring.
- Coindre Hall Boathouse – permits were taken care of a couple of weeks ago. The contractor, Lipsky, is now doing preliminary logistical work and they expect to start construction in November.
- The status of FEMA awards for the November 2009 and March 2010 Nor'easters were reviewed. An informational spreadsheet was distributed to each Trustee.
- Fuchs Pond – the contractor has filed all of their insurances. The Department of Public Works is waiting to get the contracts back from the County Attorney's office.

Trustee White suggested we hold our Trustee meetings at Meadowedge in West Sayville through March of 2011. Deputy Commissioner Bellone said she appreciated the gesture.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 18th, 2010 at Meadowedge in West Sayville, New York.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of *8-0-0

*** Vote did not include Trustee Hilary**